Best Practices for Microchipping

How to implant a microchip

- 1. Prepare universal scanner and new, sterile blister pack containing the microchip
- 2. Scan the pet to verify whether or not a microchip has been previously implanted
- 3. If no microchip is already in place, find the appropriate implantation site and sterilize it as you would prior to any injection
- 4. Scan the blister pack to ensure the microchip functions before you open the package
 - Verify the code given matches the barcode labels
- 5. Fold or tent the skin between your fingers
- 6. Inject the microchip into this fold, allowing the needle to penetrate its full length into the implantation site
- 7. Continue to exert force on the syringe plunger until it is fully depressed, and you hear the "No-return click" to ensure the microchip has been released from the syringe into the subcutaneous tissue
- 8. Continue to hold the folded skin until the syringe has been removed
- 9. Dress the wound as needed to stop any minor bleeding
- 10. Scan the microchip to ensure it's still functioning and can be localized within the pet

It's implanted, now what?

- ✓ If done at the same time, vaccinations should be done in a different area than the chip implantation
 - Maintains ability to quantify any bodily reactions, to a likely cause (it's unlikely to be the microchip)
- ✓ Keep the pet as quiet / calm as possible for approximately 24 hours
 - Helps prevent any chip migration, which can happen with any implanted microchip
- ✓ Keep implant site clean and dry
- ✓ No topicals for one week after implantation

Tips for Scanning

- ✓ Metal can interfere with the microchip frequencies try to scan away from metal exam tables, metal doors, metal desks (collar tags and leashes are not a problem)
- ✓ Scanning through metal or metal mesh cages will most likely interfere with the reading
- ✓ The larger the antenna on the scanner, the easier it will be to scan microchips
- ✓ Try with more than one scanner (when possible) before giving up on finding the microchip

